In re Application of: Lee and Esquela

Application No.: 10/666,225 Filed: September 17, 2003

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REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 6, 8, 9, 12, 15-18, 23-29 and 37 are pending in the present application, with claims 1-4, 6, 8, 9, 12, 23-29 and 37 having been withdrawn from further consideration.

Applicants thank Examiner Mertz for the telephone conversation on October 25, 2005 regarding the election of Group V under Restriction Requirement, and the need to amend claim 15 into independent form. Accordingly, by the present communication, claim 15 has been amended.

Applicants also note that, as suggested by Examiner Mertz, claim 15 has been further amended to include an antibody that specifically binds to a growth differentiation factor-12 (GDF-12) polypeptide having an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 12. The amendment does not raise any issues of new matter, being fully supported by the Specification as filed.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative if there are any questions relating to this application. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any other fees that may be required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account <u>07-1896</u>.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 28, 2005

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